

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 DRC-01 IO-14 /128 W

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P R 131024Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2614

AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USDEL JEC PARIS UNN

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 3492

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, VS, VN, SW

SUBJECT: SWEDEN AND THE PRG

REF: (A) SAIGON 10513; (B) STOCKHOLM 3380; (C) STOCKHOLM 3322

1. SWEDISH RADIO REPORTED AUGUST 12 THAT THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT EXPECTS TO UPGRADE THE PRG INFORMATION OFFICE IN STOCKHOLM WITHIN A COUPLE OF WEEKS. BROADCAST ADDED THAT THE GOS WOULD NOT RPT NOT ACCORD DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION TO THE PRG BUT THAT NEW STATUS OF PRG WOULD BE ROUGHLY SIMILAR TO THAT OF THE PRG MISSION IN PARIS.

2. THE SAME BROADCAST ADDED THAT A GROUP FROM THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS LED BY THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, LENNART KLACKENBERG, IS LEAVING FOR HANOI FOR A TOUR OF NORTH VIETNAM AND THE "PRG CONTROLLED AREAS" OF SOUTH VIETNAM TO DISCUSS SWEDISH AID PROGRAMS. (SEE SEPARATE TEL.)

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3. COMMENT: POLITICAL COUNSELOR CALLED ACTING DIRECTOR LUNDVIK OF THE FIRST DIVISION (WHICH INCLUDES NORTH VIETNAM) TO DISCUSS THE PRG QUESTION. LUNDVIK SAID THAT RADIO REPORT (WHICH HE CONFIRMED AS ACCURATE) WAS A "LEAK" WHICH WAS EMBARRASSING TO THE MFA, SINCE THE PRG RESPONSE TO THE MFA'S PROPOSALS FOR UPGRADING PRG REPRESENTATION HAD NOT YET BEEN RECEIVED. (LEAK OCCURRED ON VERY DAY NEW GVN AMBASSADOR IN BONN ARRIVED STOCKHOLM FOR UNOFFICIAL VISIT--REF C.) HE SAID THAT THE MFA HAD PROPOSED THAT THE PRG REPRESENTATION RECEIVE CERTAIN PRIVILEGES SUCH AS POUCH AND CIPHER FACILITIES, I.D. CARDS (BUT NOT DIPLOMATIC CARDS), AND VISAS ISSUED BY THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. FURTHER, THE MFA HAS RECOMMENDED TO THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE THAT DUTY-FREE IMPORT PRIVILEGES BE ACCORDED THE PRG, BUT THAT MINISTRY HAS NOT YET MADE A FINAL DECISION. HOWEVER, LUNDVIK STRESSED THAT DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY COULD NOT RPT NOT BE GRANTED PRG OFFICIALS. FINALLY, HE SAID THE MFA HAS PROPOSED THAT THE NEW NAME OF THE PRG REPRESENTATION HERE BE "GENERAL DELEGATION."

4. ACCORDING TO LUNDVIK, THE MFA HAS MADE THE ABOVE-LISTED PROPOSALS TO THE PRG OFFICE HERE AND IS AWAITING A RESPONSE. ASKED ABOUT TIMING OF THEIR IMPLEMENTATION, LUNDVIK RESPONDED THAT BARRING UNEXPECTED COMPLICATIONS, THE NEW AGREEMENT WOULD GO INTO EFFECT WITHIN TWO TO THREE WEEKS. HE STRESSED THAT THE MEASURES TO ENHANCE THE STATUS OF THE PRG DID NOT RPT NOT MEAN RECOGNITION OF THE PRG, AND SAID THAT THE MFA PLANNED TO ISSUE A STATEMENT THAT THE NEW STEPS "IMPLY NO CHANGE IN THE SWEDISH POINT OF VIEW ON THE RECOGNITION OF THE PRG AS THE GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH VIETNAM." POLITICAL COUNSELOR REITERATED USG OBJECTIONS TO RECOGNITION OF PRG, EMPHASIZING THAT CURRENT CIRCUMSTANCES WOULD MAKE SUCH ACTION PARTICULARLY INAPPROPRIATE AT THIS TIME. LUNDVIK REPEATED THAT GOS HAS NO INTENTION OF RECOGNIZING PRG "AT THIS TIME."

5. IN RESPONSE TO POLITICAL COUNSELOR'S QUERY, LUNDVIK ACKNOWLEDGED THAT KLACKENBERG'S VISIT TO "PRG CONTROLLED AREAS" WOULD BE THE FIRST BY A HIGH FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL TO THE CONTESTED AREA OF SOUTH VIETNAM, ALTHOUGH CONFIDENTIAL

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YL NOTED THAT MORE JUNIOR OFFICERS FROM SIDA (SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY) HAD VISITED PRG AREAS IN THE PAST.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RECOGNITION, FOREIGN RELATIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, DIPLOMATIC MISSION OPENING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STOCKH03492
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740221-0813
From: STOCKHOLM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740850/aaaabqxo.tel
Line Count: 111
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) SAIGON 10513; (B) STOCKHOLM 3380, ; (C) STOCKHOLM 3322
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kelleyw0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 APR 2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <25-Sep-2002 by kelleyw0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SWEDEN AND THE PRG
TAGS: PFOR, VS, VN, SW
To: STATE SAIGON
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005